



2020 Hampton St. • Room 3063A
P.O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 576-2082

Minutes

October 25, 2010
4:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Members present:

Carol Kososki, Virginia Sanders, Glenice Pearson, Sam Holland, Gary Atkinson, John Grego, Becky Bailey

Members absent: Frank Houston, Mildred Myers, Margaret DuBard, Jim Lawracy

Others Present:

Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation
Ken Driggers

Chairman Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

Minutes: The minutes of September 27 were approved.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted as presented.

Committee Reports:

Conservation Committee: Gary Atkinson, Chair

Gary announced that the Pebble Creek landowners' meeting was scheduled for Nov. 10 from 6 – 7:30 pm at the Ballentine Community Center. He will get an article in local papers and pass out flyers to advertise the meeting. Sam will also help with publicity. The finalized easements will go before the D&S committee on Oct. 26. On the 27th a dedication ceremony will be held for the Roseberry easement.

Historic Committee: Frank Houston, Chair

Nancy reported for Frank that the committee is scheduling a meeting with Dr. Bobby Donaldson to explore ways to include more African-American history in the online historic inventory website. The committee has been asked to consider the village of Hopkins for landmark status.

Robin Waites has asked Frank and Nancy to consult on a cottage at 1328 Gadsden St, across from Zion Baptist Church.

Publicity Committee: Sam Holland, Chair

Interest in restoring the Curtiss-Wright Hangar at Owens Field has been renewed since Celebrate Freedom has indicated that it will relinquish its lease early. The building is owned by the county and is in poor condition. A public/private partnership is likely to be needed to restore and operate the facility as a museum and for special events. RCCC could facilitate by funding a feasibility study through its grants program or as a special project. Sam will check to see if there are any pre-existing studies.

Finance Committee: Virginia Sanders, Chair.
There was no report.

Program Manager's Report: Jim Wilson

1. A decision between two companies for the Jackson Creek Restoration project will be made in November.
2. Interviews for the position held by Hugh Caldwell have begun.
3. Carol encouraged nominations for Treasured Trees; the deadline is Nov. 1. Winners will be announced on Arbor Day. RCCC is participating in the Midlands Arbor Day Awareness programs.
4. Commission members are invited to the Farm – City Week Observance lunch on November 16. City Roots will be the honored Producer and Rosewood the Business Partner.
5. The name of the bid winner for the Fort Jackson parcels has not been revealed. Commissioners encouraged Jim to be proactive and find out who the new owner is and what the terms of the contract are.
6. Carol, Nancy and Jim will be attending a Community Forest program meeting that involves partnering on protecting land for conservation and recreation.
7. There are ten easements that need to be closed by December.
8. Penny Sales Tax: Commissioners raised concerns that there was no assurance the money would be spent on the projects listed.

Other Business:

Virginia reported that she and Jim Lawracy had visited the Caughman property on Garners Ferry and Jim agreed that it would make a good park. The asking price is \$1.2 million for 73 acres that includes a 20-acre pond. Richland County has pledged \$400,000 and Richland County Recreation Commission agreed to \$250,000. Gary moved/Glenice seconded the motion to allocate \$100,000 for the project from the capital reserve fund. The motion was approved.

John asked the Commission to send a letter to Sen. Lindsey Graham in support of \$1.4 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to complete the acquisition of the 1840-acre

Riverstone Tract for Congaree National Park. Sam moved/Glenice seconded the motion which was approved.

Notice that the grant period is open should be sent/resent to council members, media, and any other interested parties.

Gary commented that the canoe access at Harbison State Forest is unusable.

Public Input:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM

Next Meeting Date: November 22, 2010

Submitted by:
Nancy Stone-Collum